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IN THIS ISSUE:

Milk Production
 Livestock Slaughter
 Cattle on Feed
 Cold Storage
 Potato Stocks

Idaho Milk Production Up 18 Percent

Idaho milk production during February 2000 totaled 538 million pounds, up 18 percent from the same month last year, but down 6 percent from January 2000. February 2000 contains one more day than February 1999 due to the leap year. Prorating last February's production to account for the extra day results in an increase of 14 percent from February 1999. Average milk production per cow in February 2000 was 1,620 pounds, 130 pounds more than February 1999, but down 110 pounds from January 2000. The average number of milk cows in February was 332,000 head, 26,000 more than in February 1999 but unchanged from January 2000.

Nationally, February milk production in the 20 major States totaled 11.7 billion pounds, up 8.2 percent from production in these same States in February 1999. Adjusting last February's production to account for the extra day changes the increase to 4.5 percent from February 1999. January revised production, at 12.3 billion pounds, was up 4.9 percent from January 1999. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,505 pounds for February, 101 pounds above February 1999. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.77 million head, 72,000 head more than February 1999 and 3,000 head more than January 2000.

Milk Production, Average Number of Cows, Selected States, February 1999-2000

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		2000 As Percent of 1999
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		
Arizona	132	137	1,835	1,935	242	265	110
California	1,447	1,496	1,555	1,710	2,250	2,558	114
Florida	158	157	1,365	1,425	216	224	104
IDAHO	306	332	1,490	1,620	456	538	118
Illinois	125	120	1,310	1,480	164	178	109
Indiana	136	141	1,300	1,380	177	195	110
Iowa	219	215	1,380	1,500	302	323	107
Kentucky	135	130	985	1,070	133	139	105
Michigan	292	298	1,405	1,510	410	450	110
Minnesota	545	540	1,385	1,475	755	797	106
Missouri	162	157	1,140	1,220	185	192	104
New Mexico	223	238	1,615	1,730	360	412	114
New York	702	700	1,320	1,370	927	959	103
Ohio	260	259	1,310	1,400	341	363	106
Pennsylvania	615	617	1,375	1,475	846	910	108
Texas	341	350	1,430	1,470	488	515	106
Vermont	162	159	1,290	1,365	209	217	104
Virginia	122	120	1,205	1,330	147	160	109
Washington	248	246	1,695	1,785	420	439	105
Wisconsin	1,366	1,356	1,300	1,370	1,776	1,858	105
20 STATE TOTAL	7,696	7,768	1,404	1,505	10,804	11,692	108

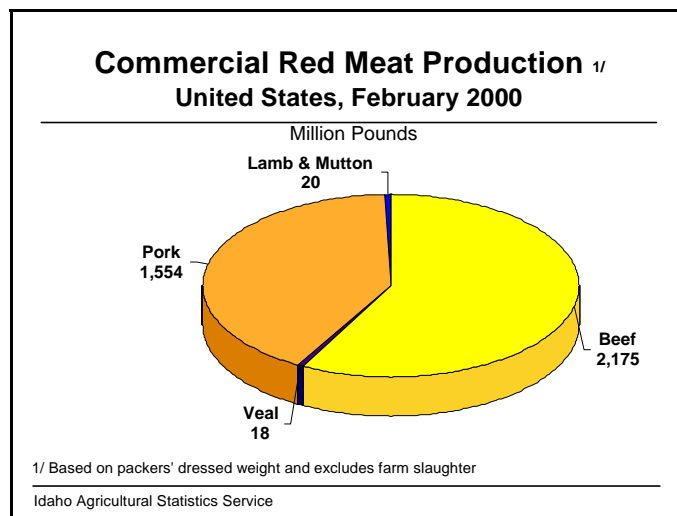
1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Idaho Red Meat Production Up 12 Percent

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for Leap Year February 2000 totaled 44.6 million pounds, up 12 percent from last year. February production showed a 14 percent decrease from January's 52.0 million pounds. Accumulated red meat production for the January-February 2000 period totaled 96.6 million pounds, up 13 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Red meat production for the United States totaled 3.77 billion pounds in February 2000, up 7 percent from the previous record high for February of 3.54 billion pounds produced in 1999. Beef production, at 2.17 billion pounds, was 9 percent above the previous year and 6 percent higher than the previous record high for February set in 1996 (also a leap year). Cattle slaughter totaled 2.94 million head, up 8 percent from 1999. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from the previous year, at 1,225 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.55 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous record high for February set last year. Hog kill totaled 8.07 million head, 2 percent above 1999. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 261 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 20 million pounds, was equal to the previous record low for February set a year ago. Sheep slaughter totaled 293 thousand head, 2 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138

pounds, up 3 pounds from February a year ago. January-February red meat production was 7.6 billion pounds, 2 percent higher than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was 4 percent higher than last year, pork was unchanged, and lamb & mutton was up 3 percent.



Commercial Red Meat Production, Selected States and United States ^{1/}

State	February 1999	January 2000	February 2000	February 2000 As Percent Of ^{2/}	
				February 1999	January 2000
	<i>Million Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>	
California	81.2	88.3	83.6	103	95
Colorado	171.1	183.4	190.5	111	104
IDAHO	39.8	52.0	44.6	112	86
Illinois	200.3	204.9	207.1	103	101
Iowa	497.9	510.8	497.8	100	97
Kansas	461.9	512.4	520.5	113	102
Minnesota	159.7	169.7	170.9	107	101
Montana	1.8	1.7	1.4	82	87
Nebraska	532.1	560.6	571.9	107	102
Nevada	0.1	--	0.1	100	--
Oklahoma	68.6	82.7	78.3	114	95
Oregon	3.1	3.6	3.5	111	97
South Dakota	82.7	82.1	78.2	95	95
Texas	361.6	401.1	390.1	108	97
Utah	37.1	37.9	37.1	100	98
Washington	51.1	62.5	54.1	106	87
Wyoming	0.5	0.5	0.4	86	91
UNITED STATES	3,536.6	3,784.5	3,767.3	107	100

1/ Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. 2/ Percentages based on unrounded data.

Idaho Cattle On Feed Up 11 Percent

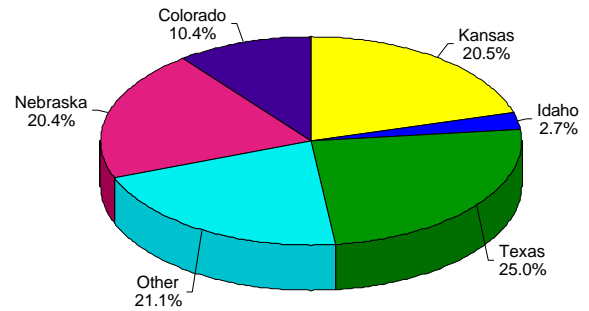
Cattle on feed for the slaughter market in Idaho from feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head on March 1, 2000 totaled 305,000 head, up 11 percent from the March 1, 1999 inventory of 275,000 head. The inventory was up 2 percent from the number on hand as of February 1, 2000.

Placements of cattle into State feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during February totaled 70,000 head, up 13,000 head from February 1999 placements. Marketings during February totaled 57,000 head, up 12,000 head from February 1999 marketings.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States from feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.33 million head on March 1, 2000, up 9 percent from March 1, 1999. Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.88 million, 4 percent above 1999. Net placements were 1.80 million.

During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 351,000, 600-699 pounds were 476,000, 700-799 pounds were 596,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 457,000. Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 2.05 million, 12 percent above 1999 and 11 percent above 1998. Other disappearance totaled 78,000 during February, 20 percent above 1999.

**Cattle On Feed at 1000+ Capacity Feedlots
March 1, 2000**



Percents may not add due to rounding
Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots^{1/}

State	March 1, 1999	February 1, 2000	March 1, 2000		
			Number	As % of 1999	As % of February
		---1,000 Head---			---Percent---
Arizona	203	275	275	135	100
California	385	415	405	105	98
Colorado	1,130	1,200	1,180	104	98
Idaho	275	300	305	111	102
Iowa	360	385	375	104	97
Kansas	2,030	2,340	2,320	114	99
Nebraska	2,160	2,370	2,310	107	97
New Mexico	107	113	105	98	93
Oklahoma	365	*420	400	110	95
South Dakota	184	200	200	109	100
Texas	2,610	2,900	2,830	108	98
Washington	181	211	210	116	100
Other States	430	445	415	97	93
United States	10,420	*11,574	11,330	109	98

^{1/}Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. *Revised.

Frozen Potato Stocks Down 2 Percent

Frozen stocks of french fries in the United States on February 29, 2000, totaled 1.007 billion pounds, an increase of 10% from January 31, 2000, and up slightly from February 28, 1999. Other frozen potatoes, at 243.7 million pounds, increased 7 percent from January stocks but were down 9 percent from last year.

United States stocks of butter on February 29, 2000, totaled 92.4 million pounds, up 127 percent from the end of the previous month but down 3 percent from February 28, 1999. Of this 92.4 million pounds, the government owned 383,000 pounds. Stocks of total American cheese totaled 515.8 million pounds, up 107 percent from January 31, 2000, and up 11 percent from February 28, 1999. The government owned 67,000 pounds of the American cheese stocks.

Commodity	Feb. 28, 1999	Jan. 31, 2000	Feb. 29, 2000	2000 1999
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>
POTATOES:				
French Fries	1,005,100	912,149	1,006,644	100
Other Frozen	267,800	228,065	243,720	91
TOTAL	1,272,900	1,140,214	1,250,364	98
DAIRY:				
Butter	94,971	72,867	92,369	97
(Gov't Owned)	281	288	383	136
Natural Cheese	464,724	480,143	515,820	111
American, Total				
(Gov't Owned)	36	70	67	186

Potato Stocks

Potato stocks held by growers, dealers and processors in Idaho on March 1 totaled 65,000,000 cwt., 1,000,000 cwt. less than on hand March 1, 1999. Disappearance, at 68,330,000 cwt., is down from last year's 72,000,000 cwt. and below 1997's 70,814,000 cwt. Stocks in the 10 Southwest Counties totaled 5,000,000 cwt., above last year's 4,300,000 cwt. The Other Counties' stocks, at 60,000,000 cwt., was 1,700,000 cwt. below the amount stored on March 1, 1999.

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the March 1, 2000 Idaho Potato Stocks estimate is 6.5 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 65.0 million cwt. will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 6.5 percent or 4.2 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence interval) that the difference will not exceed 11.1 percent or approximately 7.2 million cwt.

Production and Total Stocks of Fall Potatoes Held by Growers, Processors and Local Dealers on March 1, 1999 and March 1, 2000 ^{1/}

State	Crop of 1998			Crop of 1999		
	Production	Total Stocks March 1, 1999 ^{2/}	March 1 Stocks as % of Production	Production	Total Stocks March 1, 2000 ^{2/}	March 1 Stocks as % of Production
	1,000 Cwt.		Percent	1,000 Cwt.		Percent
California	3,708	1,600	43	4,005	1,800	45
Colorado	25,360	12,000	47	25,762	12,900	50
Idaho	138,000	66,000	48	133,330	65,000	49
Maine	18,060	8,450	47	17,813	9,400	53
Michigan	14,648	4,100	28	14,963	4,200	28
Minnesota	21,170	8,900	42	18,020	6,200	34
Montana	3,180	2,650	83	3,325	2,700	81
Nebraska	8,175			8,904		
New York	7,290	800	11	6,758	800	12
N. Dakota	28,670	12,800	45	26,400	8,300	31
Ohio	1,200			987		
Oregon	26,229	13,000	50	28,020	15,900	57
Pennsylvania	3,360	700	21	3,080	750	24
Washington	93,225	29,500	32	95,200	28,000	29
Wisconsin	30,895	11,000	36	34,000	11,700	34
Other States		2,150			2,400	
15 STATE TOTAL	423,170	173,650	41	420,567	170,050	40

^{1/} Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant 2000 crop. Seed usage in 1999 totaled 29.5 million cwt.

^{2/} Blank State combined into "Other States".